

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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12

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01 CAB-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02

/035 W

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R 231837Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3990

INFO AMCONSUL ANTWERP

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 04646

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, CASC, BE, US

SUBJECT: SEIZURE OF AIR CALEDONIA PLANE

REF: STATE 119672

1. AIR CALEDONIA PLANE REMAINS IMMOBILIZED AT OSTEND. BY COURT ORDER. AT LEAST SOME PASSENGER APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT RETURN FLIGHT IS POSTPONED UNTIL JUNE 1. BELGIAN AERONAUTICS ADMINISTRATION HAS REFUSED AIR CALEDONIA PERMISSION TO BRING NEW PASSENGERS TO BELGIUM MAY 26, BUT HAS APPROVED FLIGHT FROM BELGIUM THAT DATE WITH PASSENGERS WHO ENTERED MAY 11. THERE IS NO SIGN, HOWEVER, THAT AIR CALEDONIA ACTUALLY INTENDS TO OPERATE SUCH A FLIGHT; THEY HAD REQUESTED APPROVAL SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, BUT NEVER PROVIDED PASSENGER MANIFEST.

2. INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REFTEL HAS BEEN USEFUL IN DISCUSSIONS WITH INTERESTED BELGIAN PARTIES. QUESTION AS TO WHETHER SEIZED PLANE IS OWNED BY AIR CALEDONIA OR BY ELLIOT INTERNATIONAL MIGHT BE OF LEGAL INTEREST, BUT TO DATE NOTHING ON SUBJECT HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO COURT HAVING JURISDICTION (AT BRUGES, NOT OSTEND AS WE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED). OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT AIRCRAFT WOULD BE RELEASED UPON PAYMENT BY AIR CALEDONIA OF AMOUNT THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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HAD BEEN PAID TO THEM IN ADVANCE OF EARLIER TRIP THAT WAS

EVENTUALLY CANCELLED. COMPLAINANT MAY BE SEEKING ADDITIONAL DAMAGES, BUT THAT ACTION WOULD NOT IMPEDE OPERATION OF AIRCRAFT WHILE PENDING.

3. FOR LONDON: *FYI TRAVEL AGENT IN OSTEND WHO HANDLES AIR CALEDONIA BUSINESS TELLS US THAT AIR CALEDONIA AGENT FOR EUROPE IS JOHN RICHARDS, OF HARLOW/ESSEX, TELEPHONE 279/416532.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, AIRCRAFT DETENTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRUSSE04646
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750182-1128
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750520/aaaaarry.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 119672
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUL 2003 by maginmm>; APPROVED <27 JAN 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEIZURE OF AIR CALEDONIA PLANE
TAGS: EAIR, CASC, BE, US, AIR CALEDONIA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006